

## EXIT BLOUSE, ENTER ETON.

New Styles and Quaint  
Revivals Decried  
by Fashion.

Sleeves Show Several Changes  
and Belts Have Grown to  
Alarming Proportions.

After their long career of popularity, blouses have at last succumbed to the inevitable law of fate and fashion and have made way for new things. Dress reformers sigh and artists groan, but the loose crumple that concealed all outlines and made breathing easy and grace a universal attribute has had its day. The woman whose baggy waist was last winter a thing of joy to the hygienist will this season find herself as tightly as possible and go forth to conquer in bodices as snugly fitted as those armor-like ones in

Sleeves seem scarcely related to sleeves as they were last year. Then they were balloons from wrist to elbow. Now they fit as snugly as a glove at the wrist and are scarcely wider at any point until they are about four inches below the shoulder. There they expand into puffs full enough to hang over toward the elbow. Sometimes they do not even do this, but are finished at the shoulder with a set of graded capes or ruffles, hanging one below the other. These ruffles, of which there are seldom more than three, are made of two materials, the intermediate dill being of the goods which is used as the dress trimming.

A frock designed for afternoon receptions and similar stately affairs has a waist illustrating several of the new fashions. Material of which the gown is made is a deep, damson colored velvet. The waist is tight fitting. A high corset of silk in a lighter tone of the same color gives the waist and fastens beneath a narrow double frill in front. Into this corset a rest of folded velvet disappears. Two short, divided Bolero edged with dull silver passementerie form the upper part of the skirt. They are split in the back and form an inverted V from the collar. The collar is of velvet and silk, with a row of red velvet lace. The sleeves, which consist of a short, full puff and a long, tight-fitting lower portion, have falls of the lace over the wrists.

A street frock which has a rather unique bodice is of rough blue serge made with a sort of grace from the waist. The bodice is of a double full of black chiffon. The whole of the front and back are veiled in accordance with the white mousseline de sole. A rounded Bolero of black chiffon edged with a double full of black chiffon is the most pleasing feature of the jacket. A dinner bodice of gray silk and velvet is particularly charming. On a robe of the velvet the bodice proper buttons in tabs with cut steel buttons. A high, straight collar with broad ears of silk finishes the neck. The waist is tight fitting, but does not fasten in front, so that the front breadth has the effect of a smoothly sorted box pleat. The sleeves are full puffs of silk ending at the elbow.

An evening waist of pink and silver brocade is now worn. It is pointed in the back and front, is cut short over the hips and is gathered over a tight lining. Pink "wing" frills, edge the low, round neck. The sleeves are tight almost to the elbow, where they expand into flower-like puffs of chiffon.

One feature of the new bodices is the broad fitted girdle. The young person who has strapped a narrow leather belt about her waist all the summer will this winter buck together a broad band at least four inches high, sometimes coming even under her arms. These belts are laid in narrow folds over a thick-fitting lining. They are rather parts of the bodice than adjuncts to it.

The material which has been used in baggy blouse fronts and which, of course, will be saved from the tight bodices may be utilized. The sleeveless Bolero which is with its partners again, will afford a use for the extra fabric. The Bolero is a feature of half the new bodices in town. The jackets boast it; walking gowns are not complete without it; it finishes the theatre bodice in velvet and in jeweled brocade it is part of the evening waist. It is the broad fitted girdle it is the most frequently seen of the Fall innovations in bodices.



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## MRS. JACK ASTOR A FADDIST OF NOTE. Trap Shooting the Newest Craze Among Women of the Smart Set.

Trap shooting is the latest fad in fashionable feminine circles. Among the most ardent disciples of the new sport is Mrs. Jack Astor. She is an expert in this healthful pastime, as she is in revolver practice, enjoying special distinction in that particular sporting ecstasy known as "wing shooting."

In essaying the pleasing role of Diana, Mrs. Astor sustains her enviable reputation of being the best and most appropriately gowned woman in any assembly. Her favorite costume when on gunning tours is of golden brown corduroy. The short skirt is supplemented by leggings of like material. Style and comfort are combined in the loose-fitting Norfolk jacket, coming down well over the hips, and fashioned upon the same plan as that worn by men. Under this she dons a silk negligee shirt, of contrasting hue or in varying tones of delicate tints. Alpine is the preferred hat, and her shoes are square toed and broad soled, harmonizing in color with the charming shooting frock.

Other society women noted as crack shots, who are enthusiasts in the reigning fad are Mrs. Havemeyer, Mrs. August Belmont, Mrs. Valentine Bird, and Mrs. Alfred Norrie. Trap shooting trains the eye, and is regarded as a superior nerve tonic. The practice is said to develop the extensive of swimming.

As the great majority of women are unfamiliar with this novel method of amusement, a description of the sport is given.

The novice is led by easy stages from known traps and angles to known traps and uncertain angles, and then to unknown traps and angles both. It is from this last stage of the practice that the excellent training is derived. When the sportsman's eye has attained such a degree of accuracy and her nerves a condition of steadiness that she is sure of her "bird" regardless of the trap or the angle from which it is sprung, she is ready for wing shooting—or a burglar.



Mrs. Jack Astor in Shooting Garb.

## RARE CHINA COLLECTORS.

Mrs. Pierpont Morgan's  
Dinner Service of  
Solid Gold.

Oriental Porcelain, Wedgwood  
and Delft Conspicuous in  
Most Collections.

Fine collections of china, like fine paintings and statues, are no longer a rarity in America, and china collecting is now, as it has been since the beginning of modern

civilization, the particular caprice of wealthy women. China is a veritable passion with many, and a knowledge of the various styles and trademarks of different potteries has become a part of the education of a fashionable woman. She must also be familiar with the products of the goldsmith's art and be able to distinguish between old and modern tapestries, good and bad paintings and to recognize on sight a fine gem, a rare bronze, a bit of real lace or a costly set of furs.

The task of becoming thoroughly conversant with the products of all the artistic potteries in the world is no light one, but to the enthusiastic china collector it is a source of never-ending joy and to her every scrap on the back of a piece of fine china possesses a deeper meaning than the crests of the aristocracy of England.

The finest array of "old blue and white" ware in this country is in the possession of Miss Emily Van Rensselaer, of Flushing-Hudson. This collection, which includes a rare assortment of Delft from Holland, France and Germany, has been in the Deering-Van Rensselaer family for generations, even prior to the time of the

deeding of Deering's Point to Miss Van Rensselaer's ancestors by King George. Some of the best examples of the interesting and costly spode are owned by Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge, who has also some beautiful Vienna plates and genuine old Uyon cups dating back to the eighteenth century. A dinner service of these fine specimens of old china is worth a small fortune, as was evidenced by the cost of much plates as adorned a recent bachelor's dinner in New York, \$225 apiece being the price. Think of it! \$1,345 for empty plates!

Mrs. Bradley Martin nearly equalled this sensation a few years ago by serving one course of one of her famous dinners from plates costing \$175 apiece. Here is one of the finest collections of rare plates in the city. She also possesses a large cabinet of china of great historical value.

The most exquisite assortment of genuine old Japanese and Chinese ware to be found in America belongs to Mrs. Edward U. Dickinson, who fell heir to it at the death of her husband. Mrs. Dickinson possesses a wide knowledge of Oriental ceramic

and her group of old Chinese vases are immensely interesting and valuable. Mrs. W. D. Sloane not only collects rare and beautiful specimens of the potter's art, but has them in daily use in her exquisitely appointed dining room.

Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt has an especially good collection of Oriental china, which is only taken from its safekeeping in the various cabinets for use at dinner parties on "high-day and holidays."

Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan is not only a connoisseur of fine china, but also has a penchant for having her elaborate dinners served on solid gold dishes. An entire gold dinner service is among her choice table appointments.

It is quite natural that Mrs. Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, whose husband was of the old Albany stock, should have china at once rich and rare. Many of her most valued pieces are heirlooms that have been in the family from the days of the old patroon. She is constantly adding to her cabinet of "Early English" ware and has many fine examples of Chelsea and Lowestoft.

An assortment of china, unique of its kind, is owned by Mrs. Verplanck Knevels, and comprises a complete dinner set of genuine old Dresden. Mrs. Knevels also owns much of century-old Delft, some rare specimens of Wedgwood as well as a few marvellous illustrations of the early Chinese porcelain.

ingly handsome girls who swim in the latest and most approved fashion. Mrs. G. la Montaine, of Westchester, has been able to swim well ever since she was a little girl.

Consuelo, Duchess of Marlborough, used to be very much admired for her swimming. Her girl friends are quite proud of her abilities in the aquatic line.

Mrs. Frederick Lehard looks as stunning in her bathing suit as she does in her ball gown. She can swim well.

Mrs. Van. She can swim well. Mrs. Edwin Gould, Mrs. Suffern Tallier and Mrs. Pierre Lorillard, Jr., are excellent swimmers.

Mrs. Henry A. Jerome tells a jolly little story of how she first learned to "strike out." She was the youngest of four sisters.

Mrs. Jerome, then a child of seven years, was standing on the diving platform watching her sisters swim, when someone pushed her into the water, exclaiming, with a laugh, "Now, little one, swim for your life!"

She says she can never explain how she did it, but when she rose to the surface gasping and spluttering she struck out with a right good will, and bravely kept on top until her sisters came to her rescue. From that time on, she found delight in swimming. To-day she is an expert.

It is said that Princess Maud, of Wales, is a fearless young woman in the water. She swims perfectly, and is positively reckless.

Mrs. Burke-Roché has always been admired for her judgment in dress. Her bathing suits are especially becoming. She is not an ambitious swimmer, but enjoys a plunge.

Swimming exercises every muscle in the body. It is a species of aquatic Delsarte, and a woman who can swim well is pretty certain to be graceful on land.

"Never wear a skirt when taking lessons in swimming," said a well-known teacher to a new pupil. "The only correct and practical suit to wear is a sleeveless combination affair, cut large enough under the arm-pits to allow of free use of the arms. The knees should be bare of covering, or at least be incased in stockings loose enough to give complete freedom. It is often the fault of the teacher that so many beginners have trouble in learning to swim. The majority of swimming masters expect their pupils to learn too rapidly. Swimming can only be mastered when it is reduced to methodical practice. For example, the arms should be first considered, and should be developed by gymnastic exercise before the first dip. First, throw the arms straight in front, without bending the elbow, the thumbs thrown above the palms of the hand and stretched parallel. Second, throw the arms straight out from the shoulders, with easy strength, and third, make the backward swing, which prepares for the forward stroke again, and produces the propelling power. The counting should be similar to waltz time. One, two, three.

"The legs should be put through the necessary exercise when in the water, though it is practical, and perhaps advisable, to use one leg at a time in the pool with the arm gymnastics. The secret of becoming a good swimmer depends on acquiring the same rhythmic motion one must possess to be a graceful and nimble dancer. Swimming develops the chest and back muscles more perfectly than any other exercise.

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